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FACT SHEET

SUBJECT: Posting of SPod Monitoring Data to EPA's LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish, Louisiana Website

DATE: April 29, 2020

CONTACTS: Justin Lannen, ORC
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PURPOSE/ACTION NEEDED: Concurrence on format and content of EPA's SPod Monitoring Data near the Denka Facility. The SPod Monitoring Data sheet will be updated and posted to EPA's LaPlace Website as results are received by the Region.

Background: EPA has implemented a new monitoring program around the Denka facility that, together with additional investigation, may lead to the identification of the root causes of elevated chloroprene emissions at the facility and assist in identifying potential opportunities to further reduce short- and long-term ambient air concentrations of chloroprene. SPods are monitoring instruments that contains a meteorological station to continuously measure wind speeds and directions, and a photoionization detector (PID) to continuously measure total ambient air concentrations of volatile organic compounds (VOC). Chloroprene is a VOC. The SPods will have sampling canisters to collect air samples whenever the PID detects a total concentration of VOCs above a specified "trigger" level. To keep the public informed, ambient air concentrations of chloroprene from air samples collected through the SPod Air Monitoring Program will be posted on EPA's LaPlace website.

Status of SPod Monitoring: During the week of March 9, 2020, EPA installed seven monitoring instruments, called "SPods," in close proximity to four of EPA's six Community Air Monitoring Program sites. Ex. 5 AC/DP

Ex. 5 AC/DP

During the first 2 days of deployment, 6 background canister samples were manually triggered and analyzed. The SPod triggers were then set low, with an initial trigger level around 100 ppb and were gradually increased to around 500 ppb. For that SPod trigger range (100 ppb – 500 ppb), as of March 28, 2020, 11 canisters have been analyzed. From March 10 to March 28, the highest chloroprene concentration has been 1.009 $\mu g/m^3$, with an average chloroprene concentration for all samples of 0.230 $\mu g/m^3$. From March 29 to April 27, the trigger levels have been increased to a trigger level of 800 ppb, resulting in 5 canisters that are pending analysis. After March 28, 2020 EPA is routinely analyzing for and reporting only chloroprene concentrations.

Ex. 5 AC/DP

Ex. 5 AC/DP

Next Steps

- Finalize the SPod Monitoring Summary sheet to post to EPA website.
- Make minor edits to the Website to be consistent with the new SPod Monitoring Summary
- Schedule briefing, if necessary, for stakeholders prior to posting SPod Monitoring Data.

Ex. 5 AC/DP

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